

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

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Action

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TO: Secretary of State

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INDIAN EXPRESS JUNE 13 EDITORIAL PAGE COMMENT RE SECRETARY'S REMARKS ON BOKARO AT JUNE 11 FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE HEARING (THESE NOT COVERED IN DELHI PRESS BUT MENTIONED BRIEFLY IN JUNE 12 ECONOMIC TIMES) REFERS TO PRESIDENT'S "UNUSUALLY FORCEFUL SUPPORT" FOR US ASSISTANCE TO BOKARO AND WELCOMES "EQUALLY STRONG SUPPORT" OF SECRETARY WHICH WHILE "NOT QUITE UNEXPECTED", "DOES SIGNIFY THE EMERGENCE OF A LIBERAL TREND IN US AID POLICIES".

ACCORDING EXPRESS, SECRETARY'S STATEMENT, WHICH "LEFT NO DOUBT THAT KENNEDY ADMINISTRATION HAS REJECTED CLAY COMMITTEE'S VIEW" ON ASSISTANCE TO PUBLIC SECTOR PROJECTS, "HAS COME AT A TIME WHEN THE INDIAN GOVERNMENT IS UNDERSTANDABLY EXASPERATED OVER THE INORDINATE DELAY IN THE U.S. DECISION ON AID TO BOKARO".

COMMENT CONCLUDES THAT AT THIS STAGE OF DEBATE ON BOKARO "EVEN SUCH A CATEGORICAL STATEMENT BY SECRETARY NOT ENOUGH; WHAT IS REQUIRED IS NOT VERBAL SUPPORT BUT IMMEDIATE DECISION"

EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE TRANSCRIPT OF SECRETARY'S REMARKS RE BOKARO, ASAP.

TIMMONS

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